

REMARKS

In the Non-Final Office Action mailed on July 14, 2004, claims 1-19 and 21-23 were pending. The Examiner allowed claims 13-15 and rejected claims 1-3, 5-12, 16-19 and 21-23. The Examiner objected to claim 4 as dependent upon a rejected base claim but indicated the claim to be allowable if rewritten to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended the application and believes its currently pending claims to be in condition for allowance.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant has rewritten claim 4 to include the limitations of original claim 1. Therefore, claim 4 is in condition for allowance.

Also, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation, "said first threaded member encountering a friction level when rotating" and "said first threaded member configured to stop rotation when said friction level meets a predetermined threshold." These features are not shown by *Heibel* or the other cited references. For this reason, claim 1 and its dependents, claims 2-3 and 5-9, stand in condition for allowance.

With respect to claim 7, this dependent claim requires, "said second threaded member is decoupled from axial movement with said first threaded member when said predetermined threshold is met." This feature is not shown by *Heibel*. That is, *Heibel* does not show the so-called second threaded member 33 decoupling from axial movement with the so-called threaded member 21 when the rotational friction level of the first threaded member meets a predetermined threshold. For this additional reason, claim 7 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 8 depends upon claim 7 and 1. For this reason alone, claim 8 is in condition for allowance. In addition, claim 8 requires, "said friction level reaches said

predetermined threshold due to a reaction force from at least one of said first brake pad and said second brake pad on said brake actuator.” This feature is not shown by *Heibel*. Indeed, there is no indication within *Heibel* that any reaction force by the brake pad on the actuator causes the decoupling of the first threaded member from the second threaded member. In *Heibel*, any decoupling appears to be caused by the spring 13 rather than any change in rotational friction encountered by the so-called first threaded member 21. Accordingly, claim 8 is in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 10 requires, “said second drive mechanism is configured to drive said brake actuator as a consequence of said brake engaging said brake actuator.” Again, as mentioned above, there is no indication in *Heibel* that the brake’s engagement of the brake actuator causes the second drive mechanism to drive the brake actuator. Rather, as noted by *Heibel*,

Continued rotation of shaft 1 causes tooth 25 of disc 11 to lift from pin 23 and spring 13 to wind up allowing annular member 33 to rotate relative to actuator member 3 and press clutch faces 51 and 53 together via thrust bearing 47, locking annular member 21 in position relative to outer annular member 19.

[*Heibel*, column 4, ll 30-36]. There is no indication that a brake pad causes the switch between the first drive mechanism to the second drive mechanism in *Heibel*. For this reason, claim 10 and its dependents, claims 11-12, 16, 17 and 23 stand in condition for allowance.

With respect to these dependent claims, claim 23 stands in condition for allowance because of the following limitation, “said brake is configured to create a force on said brake actuator because said drive mechanism to drive said brake actuator.” This feature is not shown by *Heibel, et al.* Indeed, *Heibel* is able to make the switch from the



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed Response is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 2, 2004.

A handwritten signature of Theresa M. Palmateer is written over a circular postmark. The signature is cursive and appears to read "Theresa M. Palmateer". Below the signature, the name "Theresa M. Palmateer" is printed in a smaller, sans-serif font.

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first drive mechanism to the second drive mechanism without reference to a brake pad. The drawings of *Heibel* do not even show a brake pad engaging the brake actuator of *Heibel*. This switch appears to be the result of tooth 25 of disc 11 lifting from pin 23 as disclosed above. For this reason, claim 23 is in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 18 has been amended to include the limitation, "created by a reaction force from the brake pad on the brake actuator." For the reasons cited above, claim 18 is not shown by *Heibel*. Therefore, claim 18 and its dependent, claim 19, stand in condition for allowance.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant requests allowance of claims 1-19 and 21-23.

Applicant believes that additional fees in the amount of \$86.00 are required for one independent claim. A check in the amount of \$86.00 is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

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